

I request that this email be read at the committee's meeting tomorrow..Thank you You can contact me at 906-280-3741,.. Dennis Renken

----- Original Message -----

Subject:Letter of Unfair competition

Date:Tue, 29 May 2012 19:58:53 -0400

From:Dennis Renken <renkenconsulting@chartermi.net>

To:creaghk@michigan.gov, OneillW@michigan.gov, "Meyer, Shawna (DNR)"
<MeyerS6@michigan.gov>, shines@michigan.gov

Good Evening my name is Dennis Renken, a private consulting forester with Renken Consulting, Inc. I serve the general forest land owners in assisting them with their forestry needs. I will work with landowners that have 5 acres and more and provide them with forestry advice on their concerns. I charge for these services to keep my business afloat. Liability Insurance and a truck and equipment to provide me with the means to provide the services. BUT , I can not compete with a governmental agency like the Delta County Conservation District who can provide free or low rates to the forestry public. Even their recent ad in the phonebook sounds like a private consultant's ad soliciting work. Today I received a call from a client, Don Nault who notified me today that my services would not be necessary as the Delta County Conservation District would be providing a free service because of the grants that they receive. Don felt bad about notifying me. This is a loss of income and I believe more will follow. I am very disappointed that the MDA will be taking away my income. I believe in private enterprise and I strongly oppose the State interfering with my income source.

Sincerely,

Dennis P Renken

Registered Forester #312

Certified Forester #14 SAF

Association of Consulting Foresters, member

Fellow, Society of American Foresters

Thank you for reading my email stating my experience with Delta County Conservation District's Unfair Practices. And also would like to state that I strongly oppose all legislation that subsidizes funding to these Districts. The MDA has not shown that they can manage their Districts. I can give another example of Marquette County District winning the bid on forest management of the Marquette County lands. Recently two private consulting firms had bids in but could not compete against governmental agency .This has to stop!!!! Sincerely Dennis Renken